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December 30, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

BAILEY et al

Serial No.:

10/009,296

Filed:

April 3, 2002

For:

Apparatus And Method For Wrapping Articles,

Particularly Groups Of Cigarettes

Art Unit:

1733

Examiner:

B. Musser

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment (Fee)
Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2004, in connection with the above-identified application. The amendments are listed below and set forth on the following pages.

Amendments to the Claims; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, entry of this amendment and favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now in the application are requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 912.40950X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

Alan E/Schiavelli

Registration No. 32,087

AES/jla (703) 312-6600